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Denali Training Fund Final Report

Funds for this project are provided by the USDOL and the Denali Commission and managed, in partnership, by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Name of Organization: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium EN 796121	
Name of Project: Dental Health Aide Therapist	
Reporting Period: 7/18/08 – 6/30/09	
Contact Person: Mary Anaruk, Program Coordinator	
Contact Number: (907)-729-5601	Email Address: meanaruk@anthc.org
Award Year: 2009	Award Number: 366-F
Original Amount Awarded: \$208,000 .00	Final Expenditures: 6/30/09
Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.	
Signed by: <u>Mary Anaruk</u> Dated <u>8-12-09</u>	

1. A. In a few sentences, please describe the initial scope of your project.
The ANTHC Dental Health Aide Therapy (DHAT) Training Program is a collaborative effort, in conjunction with the University of Washington's School of Medicine's MEDEX Northwest. This Dental component- our training center is called DENTEX. DENTEX trains Dental Health Aide Therapist students in oral health care and once graduated students will be deployed by their sponsoring Tribal Health Organization to a rural village clinic as DHATs.
B. Did you modify the scope or the budget at any time during this project? There was no modifications or changes to our budget.
C. If so, please explain.
2. A. How many people did your original proposal intend to train? '5-7 students will be supported from the funds requested in this proposal' was in our original proposal, and we have <u>6 students currently in Bethel in their 2nd year</u> , and graduated <u>4 students last December 2008</u> .
B. How many people did you ultimately train? 4 graduated in 2008 and 6 are currently in their 2 nd year in Bethel.
C. Please attach a final list of participants, their community, certification and where they are employed.

Community where trainee lives	Type of Training/ Service	Type of Certification to be earned/earned	Dates of training	Graduation Date	Employment commitment after training is complete
Chistochina Danielle Boston	DHAT	Certification as a Dental therapist	January 2007 to December 2008	December 12, 2008	Will work for Mt. Sanford Tribal consortium. In preceptorship process.
Yakutat Sheena Nelson	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Will work for Yakutat Tribe. Preceptorship with SEARCH.
Klawock Dan Kennedy	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Will work for SEARHC. In preceptorship process.
Russian Mission Chris Evan	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. Unsuccessful remediation for certificate of completion. May be working toward Primary Dental Health Aide Certification.
Bethel Tambre Guido	DHAT	Same as above	January 2008 to December 2009	December 2009	Sponsored by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation (YKHC).
Seward Ben Steward	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by TCC in Fairbanks and will be assigned to Galena.
Elim Ooyuan Nagaruk	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by TCC in Fairbanks and is assigned to Tok.
Mountain Village Bernadett Charles	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC
New Stuyahok Marian Petla	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by the Bristol Bay Health Corporation.
Atka Tatiana	DHAT	Same as Above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by the Aleutian Pribilof Island Association and will

Barraclough					work throughout the Aleutians.
Fort Yukon Corrina Cadzow	DHAT	Same as above	January 2009 to December 2010	12/ 2010	Sponsored by Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments
Unakleet Bonnie Johnson	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC
Scammon Bay Alison Kaganak	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC
Noatak Anjanette Norton	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by Maniilaq Association
King Cove Erik Linduska	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by Eastern Aleutian Tribes(EAT)
Manakotak Ferdella Sharp	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by Bristol Bay Health Corporation
Sand Point Chelsea Shoemaker	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by EAT
MT. Village Phylcia Wilde	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	Same as above	Sponsored by YKHC

D. If there is a variance between original and final, please explain.
There is no variance.

3. Please tell us about lesson(s) learned during this project. During this past year we have learned several lessons.

1. We now recruit for students much earlier than we did previously
2. The recruiting process has changed:
 - a. We encourage our students to refer potential candidates.
 - b. We also do more presentations of this program, and make personal contact with the Tribal organizations.
 - c. Our Dentists involved in the program also contact and work with the Tribal Dental Directors.

3. We are constantly revising and reworking the curriculum to better fit our students needs. There is a line between the nice to know vs. the need to know. Therefore, we need to review what is taught, and also ensure that any "Best Practices" that are developed are included in our

curriculum. It will be a job that truly never ends as we strive to keep up to date with what is the current practice in Dentistry

4. Please provide a minimum of one success story for this project.

We put together several success stories or comments the last couple of months and we attached them for your review. Please let us know if this doesn't meet your expectations.

5. Please attach a few photos with descriptive captions.

See CD included with this report.



2009 UW DENTEX Instructor/Course Schedule

Winter quarter 2009

<u>WEEK</u>		<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
1.	Jan 5-9	Pre-Session	
2.	Jan 12-16	Intro to DHA	Williard, Shoffstall
		Jan 19 HOLIDAY	
3.	Jan 20-23	Intro to DHA	Williard, Shoffstall
4.	Jan 25-30	Behavioral Sciences	Weinstein
5.	Feb 2-6	DA and Comm Prev	Williard, Shoffstall
6.	Feb 9-13	Dental Radiology (InfCont 9)	Shoffstall
		Feb 16 HOLIDAY	
7.	Feb 17-20	GHS A&P / skills	UAA/ Will, Shoff
8.	Feb 23-27	GHS Micro / skills (InfCont 23)	UAA/ Will, Shoff
9.	Mar 2-6	GHS Path / skills (InfCont 2)	UAA/ Will, Shoff
10.	Mar 9-13	GHS Path / skills (InfCont 9)	UAA/ Will, Shoff
11.	Mar 16-20	GHS Path / skills	UAA/ Will, Shoff
12.	Mar 23-27	Retest week/ Break	

Spring quarter 2009

<u>WEEK</u>		<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
1.	Mar 30-3	Community Dent. (InfCont 30)	Williard/Shoffstall
2.	Apr 6-10	Embryology/ H&N Anatomy	Williard, Rafferty
3.	Apr 13-17	Basic Restorative Function	Nagel
4.	Apr 20-24	Oral Pathology	Gandera
5.	Apr 27-1	Local Anesthesia	Williard/ Shoffstall
6.	May 4-8	Comm Dent/ Learn-a-prep	Williard/ Shoffstall
7.	May 11-15	Skills Consolidation	Williard/Shoffstall
8.	May 18-22	Observations/ learn-a-prep	Williard/ Shoffstall
		May 25 HOLIDAY	
9.	May 26-29	Cariology	Bolin
10.	Jun 1-5	ART	Bolin
11.	Jun 8-12	Retest Week/ Break	Williard/ Shoffstall

Summer Break 2009

Jun 15-19	Break
Jun 22-26	Break
Jun 29-3	Break
Jul 5-10	Break
Jul 13-17	Break
Jul 20-24	Break

Perspectives: Voices on the Dental Health Aide Program



There's a huge need for these basic services.

Ron Nagel
ANTHC Dentist and Consultant
in the *New York Times*, April 28, 2008

Becoming a Dental Health Aide Therapist is both rigorous and challenging, but the payoff is excellent dental care for rural Alaskans who might otherwise go without.

Tammy Golodergen
Dental Health Aide Therapist
Savoonga, Alaska

Too many Alaska Natives have lost their teeth because of a lack of dentists in rural Alaska.

Finally, we are doing better.

Wilson Justin
Health Director and Vice President
Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium

I have evaluated the clinical performance of four dental therapists who have been providing primary care for Alaska Natives since the beginning of 2005. ... Their patient management skills surpass the standard of care. ... the program deserves not only to continue but to expand.

Louis Fiset, DDS
Professor
University of Washington

I had a couple stop me on the road expressing their gratitude because they saved money coming to see me for their yearly exam and cleaning.

In the past, they've had to buy a ticket into Anchorage and pay for hotel and car rental.

Aurora Johnson
Dental Health Aide Therapist
in the *Alaska* magazine, December/January 2008

This program is about Natives taking care of Natives. ... We look forward to many more graduations, because we want to provide a Dental Health Aide for every village.

Don Kashevaroff
Chief Executive Officer
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

There are a lot of people that look at me and see that I am a local and I can do this, and that gives them confidence. ... People call me a role model, and I guess that's what I am.

Conan Murat
Dental Health Aide Therapist
in *Alaska* magazine, December/January 2008

I found no significant evidence to indicate that irreversible dental treatment provided by DHATs differed from similar treatment provided by dentists.

Kenneth Anthony Bolin, DDS, MPH
in the *Journal of the American Dental Association*

I have been impressed by the skill and knowledge these individuals bring to our practice. Technically they are very well trained. The quality of care they provide, working within the scope of their practice, is indistinguishable from that of the dentists. ... The pride our Native patients feel being treated by a Native provider is often evident. Besides their technical expertise the DHATs bring a knowledge of the culture and communication style which our other providers can learn from. ... young patients in their teens view these providers as role models. There has been an increased interest among these patients in careers in dentistry.

Tom Bornstein, DDS
Director of Dental Services
SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium

DHATs ... have helped shift public opinion regarding the importance of dental health. Formerly, many patients' concept of dentistry was to seek help once large holes in their teeth or pain set in, both often too late for restoration of the teeth. Now patients tend to value the more conventional routine dental exam and subsequent follow-up prior to experiencing more advanced problems.

Mark Kelso, DDS
Dental Director
Norton Sound Health Corporation
Nome, Alaska

As mid-level practitioners, we'll help ease the dentists' workload so they can work on more difficult cases where their expertise is needed. I feel very fortunate that I have this opportunity to help my people.

Bobbi Curtis
Dental Health Aide Therapist
Point Hope, Alaska

Many children who would never get to a dentist are getting care in their village. When airfare ranges from \$200 to \$400 round trip and families are struggling to pay fuel and food costs, many families do not have the funds to receive dental care until there is pain or problems. DHATs have helped resolve that problem by providing care closer to home and traveling to villages to see patients.

Sue Hoeldt, CDR, USPHS
Sub-Regional Clinic Administrator
Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

My preceptorship is going great! I worked on a patient whose maxillary central incisor was broken - I fixed her front tooth to look like the other one and she was so happy. She sent her husband to me and I fixed his front teeth too. Whenever I run into them they are all smiles. You can see the confidence in their smiles. I love my job!

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